

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

EB-08 AID-05 OES-09 ACDA-12 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01

/104 W

-----016210 310505Z /14

R 291500Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASDC 6591

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, MOPS, PFOR, RW, UG

SUBJECT: UGANDAN DELEGATION ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FROM AMIN

REF: (A) 77 KIGALI 1396 (NOTAL); (B) KIGALI 1119 (NOTAL);
(C) KIGALI 1388 (NOTAL)

1. AUGUST 21 RWANDAN GOVERNMENT PRESS REPORTS
AUG. 20 VISIT OF UGANDAN DELEGATION LED BY PAUL ETIANG,
MINISTER PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT (AND RECENTLY
ELECTED OAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL). ETIANG WAS
ACCOMPANIED BY LTCOL. MARIJAM HUSSEN, MINISTER OF
AVIATION AND LTCOL. BASHIR JUMA, GOVERNOR OF SOUTHERN
PROVINCE OF UGANDA. ETIANG REPORTEDLY CARRIED MESSAGE
FROM AMIN TO PRES. HABYARIMANA CONCERNING "COOPERATION
IN TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN UGANDA
AND RWANDA."

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2. RWANDAN PRESS RECALLED TO ETIANG UGANDA'S IMPOSI-
TION OF 35-TON LIMIT ON UGANDAN ROADS LAST OCTOBER.
ETIANG EXPLAINED THAT THE WEIGHT LIMIT WAS IMPOSED TO
PROLONG THE LIFE OF THE JINJA BRIDGE (OVER LAKE
VICTORIA) -- A VITAL LINK ON THE ROAD TO MOMBASA.
HE ADDED THAT TONNAGE PROBLEM WAS DISCUSSED AND RESOLVED
WITH THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY THE DECISION:

RWANDA, ZAIRE, BURUNDI AND SUDAN.

3. KAMPALA'S IMPOSITION OF 35-TON LIMIT ON UGANDA'S ROADS INTENSIFIED LANDLOCKED RWANDA'S ALREADY SERIOUS TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES (REF A). IN RECENT MONTHS SITUATION HAS EASED SOMEWHAT, BUT INCREASINGLY RWANDAN EXPORTS ARE BEING MADE BY AIR, BYPASSING UGANDA; COSTS FOR AIR FREIGHT ARE NOT HIGHER, TAKING ALL FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT. FUTURE RWANDAN LAND TRANSPORT PLANNING FOCUSSES ON IMPROVING ROADS AND SERVICES THROUGH TANZANIA TO DAR ES SALAAM, THEREBY REDUCING ALMOST TOTAL RELIANCE ON PASSAGE THROUGH UGANDA AND KENYA TO MOMBASA. EMBASSY HAS NO INDICATION (AND SERIOUSLY DOUBTS) THAT ETIANG'S "COOPERATION IN TRANSPORTATION MESSAGE FROM AMIN MEANS ANYTHING AS SIGNIFICANT AS A RELAXATION OF 35-TON LIMIT.

4. ON SUBJECT OF COMMUNICATION ETIANG MENTIONED TWO NATIONS STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF RWANDA LINKING UP WITH UGANDA'S SATELLITE TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION CENTER. AS REPORTED REF B, RWANDA CONSIDERING ITS OWN \$5.5 MILLION EARTH SATELLITE STATION TO UPGRADE TELECOM CAPACITY, BUT HAS POSTPONED MAKING COMMITMENT TO PROCEED.

5. PRESENCE OF GOVERNOR OF SOUTHERN PROVINCE OF UGANDA LEADS TO SPECULATION THAT ONE IMPORTANT PURPOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS DISTURBING SITUATION WHICH HAD DEVELOPED AT RWANDAN-UGANDAN BORDER, WHERE THERE HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN TROOP MOVEMENTS INTO AREA BY BOTH COUNTRIES AND AN INFLUX OF RWANDAN TUTSIS INTO UGANDA FLEEING FROM NATIONAL CENSUS (REF C). BORDER SITUATION APPARENTLY NOW STABLE AND VISIT BY GOVERNOR PROBABLY GESTURE TO ASSURE GOR OF UGANDAN GOOD INTENTIONS.

6. DELEGATION DEPARTED AUGUST 22 FOR BUJUMBURA WHERE ETIANG WAS TO DELIVER A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO BURUNDI PRESIDENT BAGAZA.
CRIGLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Expiration:
Film Number: D780355-0484
Format: TEL
From: KIGALI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780814/aaaaalgt.tel
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Litigation History:
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